In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 9 and 12 to read as follows:

Please add new claims 16-29.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for management of multi-resolution digital images comprising the steps of:

a) acquiring a plurality of digital images of different image files sizes;

b) storing said image files on a plurality of different data storage media in inverse hierarchical order with the smallest file sizes being stored on the fastest storage media, and the largest on the slowest media, the largest file sizes including FR digital images; and

c) ~~managing said storage to maintain highest effective image file density on the faster media and to facilitate faster access to selected images from said image files~~preventing customer access to FR digital images.

2. (Original) A method as in claim 1 wherein said step of acquiring includes acquiring a full resolution digital image, and copying said full resolution digital image in lower resolution image files for storage on said data storage media.

3. (Original) A method as in claim 2 wherein said step of acquiring includes the step of consolidating said acquired images in logical sets.

4. (Original) A method as in claim 1 wherein said digital image files are selected from a plurality of TN, PV, SCR, and FR digital images.

5. (Original) A method as in claim 2 wherein said digital image files are selected from a plurality of TN, PV, SCR, and FR digital images.

6. (Original) A method as in claim 5 wherein said management step includes the step of permitting limited customer access to lower resolution files for faster rendering while providing sufficient detail for customer selections for transmitting and reproduction.

7. (Original) Method as in claim 6 which includes the steps of tracking the use of the image files, discarding the low resolution files that show a preselected level of infrequent use, and recreating low resolution files from high resolution files upon a retrieval request for the images corresponding to the remaining high resolution file images.

8. (Original) At least one computer readable media on which are stored computer-executable instructions that when executed on at least one processors, perform the method of claim 1.

9. (Currently Amended) A system for management of multi-resolution digital images comprising:

a) means for acquiring a plurality of digital images of varying images file sizes;

b) means for ranking said image files by size and selectively distributing said files for storage in a plurality of different types of storage media in an inverse hierarchy, with the smaller files being grouped and stored on the fastest storage media for customer retrieval via a computer network, and the larger files being stored on the slowest media~~, to maintain the highest effective image density on the faster media to facilitate faster retrieval of the most commonly used image files~~ wherein the highest resolution digital images are stored on the slowest media and are not accessible by the customer via the computer network.

10. (Original) A system as in claim 9 wherein said acquiring means includes a developed film or print scanner and a web server that facilitates receipt of digital images supplied over the Internet, and said means for ranking and distributing said image files includes computer-readable media comprising computer-executable instructions that when executed direct at least one server to carry out the selected distribution, storage and retrieval functions.

11. (Original) A system as in claim 10 which includes means for selectively tracking and deleting low resolution image files having a history of low usage, and recreating low resolution files from high resolution files upon a retrieval request for the images corresponding to the remaining high resolution file images.

12. (Currently Amended) Computer-readable media comprising a computer-executable instruction set that when executed directs at least one computing device system to manage the acquisition, consolidation, routing, storage, retrieval and rendering of sets of digital image files of differing size to and from a plurality of different data storage/retrieval media in inverse hierarchical order, with the smallest image file sizes being stored on the fastest storage media, and the largest image file sizes on the slowest media to maintain a higher effective image file density on the faster storage/retrieval media and to facilitate faster access to selected images from said image files, the computing device system preventing customer access to full resolution (FR) digital images.

13. (Original) Computer-readable media as in claim 12 wherein said managed digital image files are selected from a plurality of TN, PV, SCR, and FR digital images.

14. (Original) Computer-readable media as in claim 13 that includes instruction sets for managing a web server to facilitate receipt of digital images and orders for reproductions on various media via the Internet.

15. (Original) Computer-readable media as in claim 14 that includes instruction sets for managing at least one server to track the use of the image files, discard the low resolution files that show a preselected level of infrequent use, and recreate low resolution files from high resolution files upon a retrieval request for the images corresponding to the remaining high resolution file images.

16. (New) A system for the processing and distribution of digital images via a network, comprising:

a data structure to store the digital images in association with customer identification data, the data structure storing the digital in a plurality of display resolutions;

a network interface to permit communication with a customer at a location remote from the system, the customer being coupled to the system via the network; and

an image router, responsive to customer requests received via the network interface, to retrieve and process selected ones of the stored images wherein a first set of predetermined ones of the stored images may be retrieved by the customer via the network interface and a second set of predetermined ones of the stored images cannot be retrieved by the customer via the network interface.

17. (New) The system of claim 16 wherein the data structure further comprises a fast retrieval data structure and a slow retrieval data structure, the first set of the stored images being stored in the fast retrieval data structure.

18. (New) The system of claim 17 wherein the fast retrieval data structure comprises a storage drive selected from a group of drives comprising a magnetic storage disk drive, an optical media drive, and a memory storage media.

19. (New) The system of claim 16 wherein the data structure further comprises a fast retrieval data structure and a slow retrieval data structure, the second set of the stored images being stored in the slow retrieval data structure.

20. (New) The system of claim 19 wherein the slow retrieval data structure comprises a storage drive selected from a group of drives comprising a magnetic tape drive and an optical media drive.

21. (New) The system of claim 16 wherein the first set of the stored images have an image resolution below a predetermined threshold.

22. (New) The system of claim 21 wherein the first set of the stored images are Thumbnail (TN) images.

23. (New) The system of claim 21 wherein the first set of the stored images are Preview (PV) images.

24. (New) The system of claim 16 wherein the first set of the stored images have an image resolution above a predetermined threshold.

25. (New) The system of claim 24 wherein the first set of the stored images are Full Resolution (FR) images.

26. (New) The system of claim 16 wherein the network interface is a wide area network (WAN) interface.

27. (New) The system of claim 16, further comprising an image management system configured to monitor access of the stored images by the customer, the image management processor deleting any of the first set of stored images not accessed by the customer for a predetermined length of time.

28. (New) The system of claim 27 wherein the first set of stored images can be generated from the second set of stored images, the image management processor initiating the generation of any of the deleted ones of the first set of stored images upon receipt of a customer request for a deleted image.

29. (New) The system of claim 16, further comprising a scanner to scan images and thereby generate the digital images.